

12-03-03

Filed Via Express Mail

Rec. No.: <u>EV 332243761 US</u> On: <u>December 1, 2003</u>

Any fee due as a result of this paper, not covered by an enclosed check, may be charged on Deposit Acct. No.50-1290.

Attorney Docket No. SCEY 20.609 (100809-00221)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor:

Toshikazu KOBAYASHI, et al.

Serial No.:

10/659,751

Filed:

September 10, 2003

Title:

OPTICAL DISK REPRODUCING...

Examiner: Art Unit:

December 1, 2003

Director of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

SIR:

In order to comply with discretionary rules 37 CFR §§1.97 and 1.98, attached hereto is a copy of Form PTO-1449 and copies of the documents listed thereon. These documents contain information in which the Examiner may consider to be important in deciding whether to issue a patent in the instant application.

As this statement is being filed prior to issuance of a first Office Action, no fee is due.

Also attached is a copy of an International Search Report dated November 18, 2003 from the corresponding PCT Application. All of the documents listed in Form PTO-1449 appear in the International Search Report.

As some of these documents are written in a language other than English, English

Language abstracts are annexed thereto explaining their relevancy in accordance with 37 CFR

 $\S 1.98(a)(3)$.

Each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited

in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more

than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in compliance with 37

§CFR 1.56 as an Examiner might consider any cited document important in deciding whether to

allow the application to issue as a patent, but the citation of each document is not to be construed

as an admission that such document is necessarily relevant or prior art. No representation is

intended that the cited documents represent the results of a complete search, and it is anticipated

that the Examiner in the normal course of examination, will make an independent search and will

determine the best prior art consistent with 37 CFR 1.104 (a), and in the course of such search

will review for relevance every document cited on the attached form even if not initialed.

Early and favorable consideration is respectfully solicited.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged on Deposit Account 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas

Reg. No. 44,528

Katten Muchin Zavis Rosenman 575 MADISON AVENUE

NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10022-2585

(212) 940-8800

DOCKET NO.: SCEY 20.609(100809-00221)

DEC 0 1 2	003 %) Please type a plus sign (+) → +	Patent and Trademark Office U	J.S. DEPARTMENT	OF COMMERCE		
.	LOT /PTO	U.S. Department of Commerce	Application No.	: 10/659,751		
TATRADEN	ARTH	Patent and Trademark Office	Filing Date	: September 10, 2003		
11,100	INFORMATION DISCI	IATION DISCLOSURE		First Named Inventor: T. KOBAYASHI		
	STATEMENT BY APP	LICANI	Group Art Unit	:		
	Sheet 1 of 1		Examiner Name	:		
			Attorney Docket No	o.: SCEY 20.609		

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials	Cite No.	U.S. Patent Document	Kind Code if known ²	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD- YYYY	Pages, Columns Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		2002/0159343		FUJIMOTO	10/31/2002	

		I	FOREIGN I	OCUMENTS		
Examiner Initials	Cite No. 1	Foreign Patent Document Office ³ Number ⁴ Kind Code ⁵ (if known)	Country	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YY/Y	Pages, Columns Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		2003-030865	JP	SONY CORP	01/31/2003	
		2001-250245	JP	MATSUSHITA ELECTRIC IND CO LTD	09/14/2001	Corresponds to US Patent Appln. Pub. No. 2002/0159343
·						

Other Prior Art-Non Patent Literature Documents

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LE appropriate), title of the item (book, magazin data, page(s), volume-issue number(s), public	Applicant check here if English language translation attached		
Examiner Signature			Date Considered		1

Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw a line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹Unique citation designation number. ²See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that Issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ³ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.1 ⁴ if possible. ⁴ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Burden Hour Statement: This form is estimated to take .2 hours to complete. Time will vary depending upon the needs of the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you are required to complete this form should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, Patent and Trademark Office, Washington, DC 20231. Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of Information unless it displays a valid OMB control number. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.